

BIDENS PLANT NAMED 'SUNBIDESUPA'

Botanical/commercial classification:

Bidens ferulifolia/Bidens Plant

5 Varietal denomination: cv. Sunbidesupa

BACKGROUND OF THE VARIETY

10 The present invention relates to a new and distinct variety of *Bidens ferulifolia*, named 'Sunbidesupa'.

15 There are some *Bidens* varieties commercially available that have a spreading growth habit with vivid yellow flowers. They are suitable for naturalistic planting and containers throughout summer until first frost. However there are few stably compact *Bidens* varieties.

20 Accordingly, this invention was aimed at obtaining a new *Bidens* variety with a compact and beautiful mounding habit having dense yellow green foliage and large vivid yellow flowers.

25 Progress

The parent variety 'Golden Eye' used in open-pollination of 'Sunbidesupa' is a cultivar having a compact growth habit and vivid yellow flowers. The seeds of 'Golden Eye' are commercially available in the UK.

30 The new *Bidens* variety was discovered by the inventors in October 2000, within a population of seedling progeny from open-pollination of *Bidens ferulifolia* cultivar 'Golden Eye', that were made from April to October 1999 at Yokaichi-shi, Shiga-ken, Japan. The new *Bidens* was selected on the basis of its very compact and unique mounding growth habit having dense

yellow green foliage and large vivid yellow flowers. The selected plant was propagated by the use of cutting and then grown in pots on trial in a glasshouse and in the field at Yokaichi-shi, Shiga-ken, Japan, from April to November 2001. The botanical characteristics of the selected plant were examined, using a similar variety 'Goldie' and 'Sunbideki' (unpatented). As a result, it was concluded that the selected new Bidens variety is distinguishable from any other variety whose existence is known to us and is uniform and stable in its characteristics. This new variety of Bidens plant was named 'Sunbidesupa'.

In the following description, the color-coding is in accordance with the Horticultural Colour Chart of The Royal Horticultural Society, London, England (R.H.S. Colour Chart).

SUMMARY OF THE VARIETY

This new variety is unlike any Bidens commercially available as evidenced by the following unique combinations of characteristics.

1. Very compact and mounding growth habit with dense yellow green foliage.
2. Freely branching, having the stiff stems and very short internodes.
3. Large, vivid yellow inflorescences on the short peduncles.
4. Commonly 8 ray flowers per inflorescence.

The new variety 'Sunbidesupa' differs from the similar variety 'Goldie' in the following points.

1. 'Sunbidesupa' grows out in a compact and mounding shape. 'Goldie' grows out in a broad and spreading shape.
2. The main stem of 'Sunbidesupa' is thicker than

that of 'Goldie'.

3. The internode of 'Sunbidesupa' is shorter than that of 'Goldie'.

4. The diameter of inflorescence of 'Sunbidesupa' is larger than that of 'Goldie'.

5. Number of ray flowers of 'Sunbidesupa' is 8. That of 'Goldie' is 5.

6. The apex shape of ray flower of 'Sunbidesupa' is sinuate. That of 'Goldie' is acute.

7. The peduncle of 'Sunbidesupa' is shorter than that of 'Goldie'.

The new variety 'Sunbidesupa' differs from the similar variety 'Sunbideki' in the following points.

1. 'Sunbidesupa' grows out in a compact and mounding shape. 'Sunbideki' grows out in a spreading shape.

2. The main stem of 'Sunbidesupa' is thicker than that of 'Sunbideki'.

3. The internode of 'Sunbidesupa' is shorter than that of 'Sunbideki'.

4. The diameter of inflorescence of 'Sunbidesupa' is larger than that of 'Sunbideki'.

5. The color of ray flower of 'Sunbidesupa' is vivid yellow (R.H.S. 7A). That of 'Sunbideki' is vivid yellow (R.H.S. 15A) with vivid yellow (R.H.S. 7A) margin.

6. Number of ray flowers of 'Sunbidesupa' is 8. That of 'Sunbideki' is 5.

7. The peduncle of 'Sunbidesupa' is shorter than that of 'Sunbideki'.

This new variety of Bidens plant 'Sunbidesupa' was asexually reproduced by the use of cuttings at Yokaichi-shi, Shiga-ken, Japan, and homogeneity and stability thereof were confirmed. The instant plant retains its distinctive characteristics and reproduces true to type in successive generations.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

The depicted plants had been reproduced by the use of cuttings and were photographed July 2003 while growing outdoors in 20 cm pots at an age of approximately 4 months at Yokaichi-shi, Shiga-ken, Japan.

FIG. 1 illustrates a typical plant of the new variety of bidens plant 'Sunbidesupa' while growing in a pot.

FIG. 2 illustrates a close view of typical foliage and blossoms of the new variety of bidens plant 'Sunbidesupa'.

DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW VARIETY

The botanical characteristics of the new and distinct variety of *Bidens ferulifolia* named 'Sunbidesupa' 4 month after cutting are as follows and were observed during May 2003 at Yokaichi-shi, Shiga-ken, Japan:

Plant:

Growth habit.- very compact, mounding growth habit.

Plant height.- Approximately 19 cm.

Spreading area of plant.- Approximately 34 cm.

Stem:

Thickness.- Main stem, approximately 3.7 mm.

Color.- R.H.S. 187A (dark grayish-red).

Pubescence.- Present.

Branching.- Abundant. Freely branching.

Length of internode.- Approximately 17 mm.

Leaf:

Arrangement.- Opposite.

Length.- Approximately 2.9 cm.

Width.- Approximately 2.2 cm.

Shape.- Pinnatiparted.

Width of leaflet.- Approximately 1.1 mm.

Apex shape of the leaflet.- Acute.

Base shape of the leaflet.- Acuminate.

5 Color.- Upper-side: R.H.S. 137C (moderate yellow green). Lower-side: R.H.S. 138B (grayish yellow green).

Length of petiole.- Approximately 6.2 mm.

Diameter of petiole.- Approximately 0.8 mm

Texture.- Smooth.

Inflorescence:

10 Type.- Single, daisy-type composite inflorescence.

Diameter.- Approximately 4.4 cm.

Number of ray flowers.- Commonly 8 in a single whorl.

Apex shape of ray flower.- Sinuate.

Base shape of ray flower.- Round.

15 Length of ray flower.- Approximately 19.0 mm.

Width of ray flower.- Approximately 13.5 mm.

Color of ray flower.- Upper-side: R.H.S. 7A (brilliant greenish yellow). Lower-side: R.H.S. 7A (brilliant greenish yellow) with R.H.S. 166C (light brown) venation.

20 Diameter of disk.- Approximately 1.0 cm.

Length of disk flower.- Approximately 6.1 mm.

Diameter of involucre.- Approximately 12.5 mm. About 26 phyllaries in three whorls.

Color of disk flower.- R.H.S. 14A (vivid yellow).

25 Peduncle.- Approximately 1.3 mm in thickness, and 0.9 cm in length.

Color of peduncle.- R.H.S. 187A (dark grayish-red).

Texture of peduncle.- Smooth.

Reproductive organs:

30 Androecium.- present on the disk floret only.

Number of stamen.- Five per disc floret.

Anther shape.- Elongated.

Anther length.- Approximately 1.8 mm.

35 Anther color.- R.H.S. 200B (dark grayish reddish-brown).

Pollen color.- R.H.S. 14A (vivid yellow).

Gynoecium.- Present on disk floret only.

Pistil length.- Approximately 5.5 mm.

Stigma shape.- Recurved, bipartite.

Stigma length.- Approximately 1.4 mm.

Color of stigma.- R.H.S. 14A (vivid yellow).

5 Style length.- Approximately 4.0 mm.

Style color.- R.H.S. 3C (light yellow green).

Ovary color.- R.H.S. 145C (brilliant yellow green).

Seed.- Few seeds development has been observed. The color
of seed is R.H.S. N186A (black). Approximately 9 mm in
10 length, 0.5 mm in width, having two awns at the apex.

Blooming period.- Start at the beginning of April to
the end of November in the southern-Kanto area, Japan. A
bloom commonly lasts 6-7 days on the plant.

Physiological and ecological characteristics:

15 Hardiness to cold.- Good.

Hardiness to heat.- Good.

Resistance to disease.- Good.

Resistance to pests.- Good.

20 The new variety of Bidens plant is most suitable for
hanging baskets, potted containers of all types, borders,
and landscape.